



# Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

## Oneida County



### **County characteristics**

- 1,124 sq. mi.
- 80% forest: 82,200 acres County Forest, 54,400 acres State Forest, 11,000 acres National Forest, 22,000 acres School Forest
- Northern Highlands area, headwaters to the Wisconsin River
- Waters: 1,129 lakes; 296 streams totaling 830 miles
- There are 37,187 residents living in Oneida County



### **State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing**

- 84,800 acres including wildlife and fisheries areas and the Northern Highland-American Legion state forest.

Locate DNR properties at:

[http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr\\_lands\\_mapping.html](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html)

### **DNR Staff serving you**

- 1 Wildlife Biologist, 1 Wildlife Technician, 1 Area Wildlife Supervisor, 1 Fisheries Biologist, 1 Fisheries Technician; 2 Conservation Wardens primarily assigned, 3 Customer Service Representatives
- Office, 107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander WI 54501
- Staff also serve portions of Vilas, Lincoln, Langlade, Florence and Forest counties.

### **Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars**

- Conduct fisheries surveys on about 20 lakes and 3 streams each year to evaluate stocking success, natural reproduction, special regulations, or general health of the fishery.
- Investigate complaints of deer poaching involving shining and shooting deer from cabins as well as hunting from vehicles.
- Investigate numerous complaints related to loaning and borrowing of archery deer tags to register illegally shot bucks.
- Several cases have been made involving fish in excess of the limit, improper size, no license and closed season.
- A youth fishing day has been established in Three Lakes. A disabled youth deer hunt is conducted on a Hazlehurst deer farm, and a disabled archery hunt is coordinated in the Rhinelander area.
- The Three Lakes High School Fish and Wildlife club teamed with the local warden to create a wildlife display.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of deer, bear, ducks, geese, grouse, woodcock, deer, frogs, eagles, osprey, and trumpeter swans.
- Work with foresters to maintain and develop forest habitat for game and nongame wildlife.

*Activities continued...*

- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints and monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus.
- Evaluate proposed projects for environmental impacts, work to keep habitats intact and functioning for fish and wildlife.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations, lakes associations and civic groups.

## ***Oneida County Conservation Snapshots***

16 DNR Boat Launches  
34 ALIS Agents Supported  
65 Hotline Complaints  
11 Deer, Turkey & Bear Registration  
Stations  
9 Stream access sites



## ***Fish Stocking Summary***

- 4.3 million walleye in 19 lakes
- 3,505 muskies in 10 lakes
- 18,645 trout in 14 lakes and streams

## ***County Success Stories***

- Recent acquisition of the Willow Flowage (16,000 acres) and Rainbow Flowage (5,000 acres) provides hunting, fishing and boating opportunities.
- Wild rice beds on 15 water bodies provide wildlife habitat and rice harvest for Native American Tribes and others.
- Maintenance of high quality forest game habitat on state and county public lands, including forest openings management on the Northern Highlands-American Legion State Forest in cooperation with Whitetails Unlimited.
- Restoration of populations of bald eagles, ospreys, common loons, sandhill cranes and Canada geese.
- Walleye populations sustained by natural reproduction on 125 lakes; musky on 64 lakes.
- Trout habitat improvement on Bearskin Creek in cooperation with Northwoods Trout Unlimited.
- Wildlife staff provides input on county forest plans and helps develop wildlife projects on the Oneida County Forest.

## ***Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities***

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
  - Fish and wildlife stocking programs; Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

***Want to Learn More? Go to [dnr.wi.gov/invest](http://dnr.wi.gov/invest)***

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